Amendments to the Claims

Please amend claims 43, 47, 49, 52, and 54 and cancel claim 48 and 53, as indicated herein. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. – 42. (Cancelled)

43. (Currently amended) An actuation assembly comprising:

a gimbal;

a slider, wherein the slider comprises a front side;

a slider bond pad for electrically connecting the slider to a trace layer, the slider bond pad having ~~at least two layers~~ a pad extension adjacent to the front side and a pad adjacent the pad extension, wherein the pad extension comprises nickel iron;

a ball bond for connecting the slider bond pad to the trace layer;

a notch located below the slider bond pad and on an edge of the slider, wherein the edge is adjacent the gimbal; and

wherein the notch and the slider bond pad provide compensation for potential misalignment between the slider and the gimbal.

44. (Previously presented) The actuation assembly according to claim 43, wherein the notch has a height with respect to the gimbal of about 25 microns.

45. (Previously presented) The actuation assembly according to claim 43, wherein the slider bond pad has a thickness of about 15 microns.

46. (Previously presented) The actuation assembly according to claim 43, wherein the slider bond pad has a thickness of about 5 microns.

47. (Currently amended) An actuation assembly comprising:

a flex on suspension bond pad electrically connected to a trace;

a slider body, wherein the slider body comprises a front side;

a slider bond pad extending from the front side for electrically connecting to the flex on suspension bond pad, the slider bond pad having a pad extension adjacent to the front side and a pad adjacent the pad extension, wherein the pad extension comprises nickel iron;

a ball bond for electrically connecting the pad to the flex on suspension bond pad;

a notch located along the front side; and

wherein the notch and the slider bond pad provide compensation for potential misalignment between the slider and the flex on suspension bond pad.

48. (Cancelled)

49. (Currently amended) The actuation assembly according to claim 49 ~~48~~, wherein the pad comprises gold.

50. (Previously presented) The actuation assembly according to claim 47, wherein the slider bond pad has a thickness of about 5 microns.

51. (Previously presented) The slider according to claim 49, wherein the slider bond pad has a thickness of about 15 microns.

52. (Currently amended) An actuation assembly comprising:

a slider;

a gimbal;

a bond pad for electrically connecting the slider to a trace, the bond pad having ~~at least two layers~~ a first layer and a second layer, wherein the first layer is proximate the slider and the second layer is proximate the first layer; and the first layer comprises nickel iron;

a ball bond for connecting the bond pad to the trace;

an indentation along an edge of the slider, wherein the indention is proximate the bond pad and is positioned between the bond pad and the gimbal; and

wherein the indentation and the bond pad provide compensation for potential misalignment between the bond pad and the gimbal.

53. (Cancelled)

54. (Currently amended) The actuation assembly according to claim 52 ~~53~~, wherein the second layer comprises gold.

55. (Previously presented) The actuation assembly according to 52, wherein the indentation has a height with respect to the gimbal of about 25 microns.

56. (Previously presented) The actuation assembly according to claim 52, wherein the bond pad has a thickness of about 5 microns.

57. (Previously presented) The actuation assembly according to claim 52, wherein the bond pad has a thickness of about 15 microns.